

505 DTM 002007
11-25
ROUTH DR PORTER
SO BAPTIST CON BL
460 JAMES ROBERTSON
IN 37219
NASHVILLE

Bold Giving Precedes Bold Mission Thrust

By Earl Kelly
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention

At the heart of the Bold Mission Thrust there is a daring challenge. Southern Baptists, which includes Mississippi Baptists, have been challenged to double their mission dollars by 1982. Last year the Mississippi Baptist Convention officially accepted the challenge by doubling the budget increase. Mississippi Baptist churches had averaged an increase of slightly over 8 percent for 20 consecutive years — some years more and others less. The projected increase for 1977 was 16 percent — the average figure needed if the 1982 goal were to be met.

This dramatic increase came at a time when the Mississippi Baptist Convention had authorized the Convention Board to launch several new and expensive projects — rebuilding Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, increasing Southern Baptist Convention causes by one-half of one percent per year for 10 consecutive years, assuming the role of employer of all BSU directors in the state (28), budgeting \$100,000 a year for 10 consecutive years for student centers, and building Central Hills Baptist Retreat.

In addition to these new projects the Convention was faced with spiraling inflation which averages about 7 percent per year. Inflation affects all Mississippi Baptist enterprises: Agencies, Boards, and Institutions. Launching the new programs that have been voted by the Convention will require a dramatic increase in Cooperative Program receipts. Business as usual will not get the job done.

Fortunately Baptist polity does not allow the Convention to assess the churches, therefore it takes more than an official vote by the Convention to meet the challenge. The responsibility of meeting the challenge of Bold Missions is the responsibility of the more than 1,900 local congregations that make up our Convention.

The reason we have not met our 1977 Bold goals is because the 1,900 churches have not averaged increasing their Cooperative Program gifts by at least 16 percent. The Convention generates no income. The Mississippi Baptist Convention income is totally dependent on gifts channeled through the autonomous churches that make up our Convention. This means that all Convention budget goals are faith goals.

I personally believe that though we have increased our Cooperative Program offerings during 1977 by 8.1 percent Mississippi Baptists will accept the challenge and make a dramatic response at the end of the year by channeling surplus funds received by the local churches through the Cooperative Program. Many churches expend all surplus funds at the end of the year. Let me challenge those churches to channel all unexpended funds through the Cooperative Program. Accept the challenge — be bold.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1977

Volume CI, Number 43

Succeeds Naylor

Dilday Named President Of Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH (BP) — Russell Dilday of Atlanta, has been elected the sixth president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Dilday, 47, pastor of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta since 1969, will succeed Robert Naylor, who will retire July 31, 1978. He will become president-elect on Jan. 1, 1978 and begin his official duties, Aug. 1, using the interim period to orient himself to the seminary and its operations.

In related action, the seminary's board of trustees voted to name Naylor president-emeritus upon his retirement. Naylor, 68, will complete 20 years service as seminary president.

Dilday, an Amarillo, Tex., native was recommended to the leadership post of the world's largest theological seminary by a trustee-appointed presidential search committee. The nine-member committee had been evaluating candidates for more than eight months.

Calling his successor an "effective pastor of great churches," Naylor said, "He brings the promise of great leadership to Southwestern Seminary."

Dilday expressed "awe at the convincing evidence of God's guidance" in his acceptance of the Southwestern presidency and said, "My prayers and vision for the seminary are that we will fulfill aggressively our part of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Bold Mission Thrust effort to reach every person in the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ by the end of the century."

Before going to Atlanta, Dilday was pastor of the Tallowood Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., 1959-1969, and has also served as pastor of Texas Baptist churches in Clifton and Antelope.

Dilday attended school in Wichita Falls, Tex., and later graduated from Baylor University. He holds the master of divinity and the doctor of

philosophy degrees from Southwestern Seminary, received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Mercer University, and has participated in the American Management Association Executive Development Program.

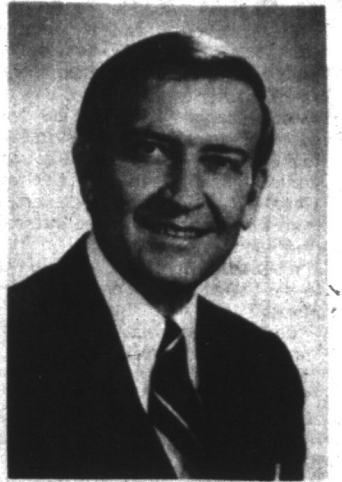
Active in denominational affairs, Dilday most recently served as board of trustees president for the SBC Home Mission Board, 1974-1976, and was the SBC's second vice president, 1970-71. He also served on the SBC Mission Challenge Committee to recommend a 25-year mission plan for Southern Baptists.

Dilday has also served on the executive committee of the Georgia Baptist Convention, 1970-1975, as moderator of the Atlanta Baptist Association, 1973-74, and as president of the Atlanta Baptist Association Pastors Conference 1974-1975. He is the author of a book, "You Can Overcome Discouragement," and has contributed to numerous periodicals and Bible commentaries.

The new seminary president currently serves on the Morehouse College (Atlanta) board of directors, and is a member of the review committee for the research project of the Mercer University, School of Pharmacy. He also serves as a field supervisor for the doctoral programs of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Columbia Theological Seminary (Louisville, Ky. and Decatur, Ga. respectively). He is a former trustee of Baylor University, Pace Academy (Atlanta), and San Marcos Academy (Texas).

A sporting enthusiast, Dilday is a licensed private plane pilot. His sporting hobbies include golf, tennis, racquet ball, fishing, hunting, and snow skiing.

Dilday has been married since 1952 to Betty Doyen of Houston. The couple have a son Robert, 22, and two daughters, Nancy, 19, and Ellen, 17.



Georgia pastor, Russell Dilday, will become president of Southwestern Seminary in 1978.

Foreign Missions

Hotline Elicits

Specific Prayers

RICHMOND (BP) — Foreign Missions Hotline is scheduled for its seventh consecutive year.

The hotline, a prayer line for missions work throughout the world, began Nov. 15 and will run through Dec. 15.

The missions hotline is available for the price of a three-minute station-to-station call to Richmond to (804) 355-6581. The missions message will be changed weekly on Thursdays and more frequently if a crisis occurs between regular recordings.

Information for the hotline comes from the board's eight area secretaries and other staff members; from field representatives stationed in each mission area; and from the missionaries themselves.

Voicing the prerecorded message this year will be Lloyd F. Jackson Jr., secretary for the Baptist Men's Department of the Virginia Baptist General Board, headquartered in Richmond.

Rutledge Dies In Georgia; Led HMB In "Crisis Years"

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP) — Arthur Bristow Rutledge, 66, who guided the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during 12 of its most stormy years, died here Nov. 23, after suffering a heart attack.

Rutledge suffered the attack while at his home on Lake Lanier, near Cumming, Ga. He was dead on arrival at a Gainesville hospital.

Mrs. Rutledge, his wife for 41 years, died Oct. 9, in Atlanta.

He retired as executive secretary-treasurer of the Home Mission Board Dec. 31, 1976, after 12 years at the helm. The years were at times peaceful and strife filled, secure and uneasy, as the fabric of society changed and modified.

Under his leadership, Southern Baptists moved into all 50 states, developed into the United States' most multi-cultural denomination, doubled the national staff, and tripled the budget.

The HMB, during the Rutledge years, became what one church planning expert called "the most effective mission board of any religious group in the U.S."

Rutledge joined the HMB in 1959 as director of the newly-created missions division. He became its chief executive Jan. 1, 1965, succeeding the late Courts Redford.

Rutledge, a native of San Antonio, Tex., was born April 30, 1911. He worked as a bank teller before going to Baylor Univ. He also was graduated from both Southern and Southwestern seminaries, and was pastor of churches in Indiana, Kentucky, and Texas.

After serving as pastor, of FBC, Marshall, Tex., 1945-57, he became secretary of stewardship, and direct missions for Texas Baptists, a post he held two years, leaving to accept the HMB position.

Shortly before his retirement, Rutledge said of his leadership, "It has been my desire and the desire of our staff people and of our directors to be open to new ideas, new ways of doing things. Once we ventured out, we were willing to stick our necks out, there may have been some rough days, and some flak and some criticism, but there has been a surprising acceptance of positions we've advocated. Sometimes we were alone in advocating them for a while."

Rutledge admitted during the interview that he and others at the board received more negative mail "more criticisms on our position on race than any other."

"But I think we were never radical in our stand. I think what we stood for then is pretty generally accepted by our people now. It says it was not an immoderate stand. We were just ahead of where people were at the time."

The firm, yet flexible, leader added, "I could not be fully satisfied with what I was doing because I felt people needed to be a lot farther down the road than they were. And I was willing — I settled this in my heart — to be fired if it would help the cause. But I never could believe that the cause of Christ would be furthered by my taking such a stand that hardly anyone would stand with me."

The years of the late 1960s — when he was executive — were years of crisis for the SBC. "They were years in

which hostility was expressed by youth . . . demonstrations and even death, destruction of property. I think at that point the convention began to do some maturing, to take seriously the responsibilities to lead out.

"The statement on the national crisis adopted by the convention at its meeting in Houston (1968) was a very significant action. The HMB was asked to assume leadership among the agencies of the convention to develop whatever correlation might be needed; whatever plans might need to be developed in those turbulent years."

Rutledge said the years were not as "critical as others were for the HMB, but were critical for shaping the board for the immediate future."

He added, "For the convention and the agencies, the crisis years represented a turning point in us becoming more aware and more widely conscious of our need to be concerned for all people."

Upon his retirement, Rutledge had looked forward to short term teaching assignments at the seminaries, prom-

otion of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions, revivals and writing.

However, he suffered a series of mild heart attacks in later summer followed by Mrs. Rutledge's illness and death.

Of Rutledge, William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the HMB said, "He was a giant. He left tracks on the life of Southern Baptists that will not be eradicated."

Tanner also noted he was "privileged to have peeked over Arthur Rutledge's shoulder for a short time." He worked with Rutledge for three months prior to assuming leadership of the board.

Tanner assisted in conducting Rutledge's funeral.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Clifford M. Ables, III, of Sebring, Fla., a son, David Wayne Rutledge, of Brownwood, Tex., a daughter-in-law, Mrs. A. Burt Rutledge, of Newman, Ga., a sister, Mrs. Beryl Rock and a brother Glenn Rutledge, both of Abilene, Tex., and eight grandchildren.

President Proclaims National Prayer Day

WASHINGTON (BP) — President Jimmy Carter has designated December 15, 1977, as a National Day of Prayer as requested by the Congress.

In his proclamation Carter suggested that all Americans "ask the Almighty for the vision to see our duty as individuals and as a nation for the courage to pursue it, even at the cost of personal or collective sacrifice."

The Senate passed a resolution earlier this year suggesting December 15 because of its historic significance. The First Continental

Congress proclaimed the third Thursday of December as a Day of Prayer for the Continental Army and Thanksgiving for its victory at Saratoga in 1777.

Action on the resolution in the House of Representatives is pending while the leadership decides if further action is necessary since the President has already issued his proclamation.

Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has endorsed the resolution as have the leaders of 11 other religious groups in the United States.

Baptist Work In Uganda Still On Shaky Ground

JINJA, Uganda (BP) — Tentative approval has been received from the chief education officer of Uganda for 22 local primary schools started by Baptist churches here to continue operation.

Southern Baptist missionary G. Webster Carroll reported about the current situation in a telephone conversation, Nov. 8, with Davis L. Saunders, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa.

Carroll said there had still been no reply from Uganda's President Idi Amin or from his secretary for religious affairs to the Baptist request for an opportunity to discuss the ban placed on Baptists and 26 other religious groups early in the week of Sept. 18.

Baptist churches in Uganda have not been meeting since the ban went into effect, Carroll pointed out. He told Saunders he had met with the governor of his province to assure him that Baptists were not violating the ban on such religious activities.

The people of Uganda are not unfriendly toward the missionaries and

Baptists, Carroll said, but Baptists have had no choice but to obey the ban since it has the effect of law.

Saunders pointed out that the schools which are continuing are operated by committees of parents from the churches and are not funded in anyway by the organization of missionaries.

The ban allowed only four groups to continue to meet in Uganda — the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Church of Uganda, the Uganda Orthodox Church (related to the Greek Orthodox Church) and the Muslim religion.

Amin said that the ban was imposed because he felt the religious groups were "not conducive to national security." Two other major international religious groups were affected by the ban, the Seventh-Day Adventists and Salvation Army.

Two Southern Baptist missionary couples are in Uganda. The Carrolls are from West Virginia and Florida, and the James L. Rices, from Virginia. A third couple, the Harry B. Garvins, are on furlough in Texas.



Arthur B. Rutledge

One Month Drive Begins For \$34 Million Foreign Offering

BIRMINGHAM, AL — Eight days of praying and learning about the foreign side of Bold Mission Thrust will pave the way for an offering big enough to start the bold ball rolling.

"Declare!" is the theme of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions earmarked for December 4-11. The Week of Prayer opens a one-month drive for a \$34 million Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The goal was set high to provide initial funding for Bold Mission Thrust.

Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, joined Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, president of the sponsoring Woman's Missionary Union, in urging every Southern Baptist to pray and give for foreign missions.

Allen said, "Business as usual in our praying and giving patterns won't do. Let us think big, dream great dreams, and give our best, for this offering is important to the Bold Mission effort."

"The eyes of the world are on us. More importantly, the eyes of our Lord are on us. Whether he can be free to pour out his power on our witness depends on our priorities," Allen said. "Southern Baptists are pivotal in meeting today's unprecedented challenge for missions witness."

Mrs. Gregory called for Baptists who have not been active mission supporters to join in the Bold Mission Thrust effort. "If you have never given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, now is the time to start. If you don't usually pray for missionaries, December 4 is the time to begin, daily. It is time to say Lord, what would you have me do in preaching the gospel to every creature," she said.

"If we want a boldness in missions, now is the time to pay the cost," Mrs. Gregory said. "The goal of \$34 million was set high enough to maintain our present 2,700 missionaries and our programs in 88 countries, with about \$4 million extra to start bold new mission strategies."

The Christmas Offering provides about half the budget for foreign missions. The Cooperative Program, which provides the other half, also is pushing for growth on behalf of Bold Mission Thrust.

Last year's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering amounted to \$28,763,899. Local churches and individuals will have to increase their giving 18 percent to reach the \$34 million mark. "An increase that big is unprecedented," Mrs. Gregory said. "But we have

never before declared our intentions to present the gospel to every person by the year 2000. This month we will see how serious we really are about Bold Mission Thrust."

Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood organizations are joining pastors in churches to spearhead the season of praying and giving.

Missions sermons, prayer meetings, dinners, films, posters, exhibits, and family prayer times will dominate the campaign. A leaflet giving suggestions for daily prayer at home for foreign missions and a factual leaflet

explaining the Lottie Moon Offering have been widely distributed.

The "Declare!" theme is based on Exodus 9:16: "And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee my power; and that my name may be declared . . . throughout all the earth."

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is named for the missionary in China who suggested that WMU promote a Christmas-time offering for missions. Since the first offering was taken in 1888, it has rolled up a cumulative total of \$337,864,786.



Missionaries Bid Farewell

Missionary orientation is a time of learning and loving. In this photo two newly appointed missionaries say goodbye on their last day of orientation at Pine Mountain, Georgia. The 1977 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal is \$34 million. \$150,000 is allocated for missionary orientation housing and food. Over \$1 million is allotted for the outfitting and travel of new missionaries to the field, and their rent and salary once on the field. — FMB Photo by Bob Harper

MBC Action Shows Concern For Church-State Relationship

RESOLUTIONS

NO. 1 RESOLUTION CONCERNING INTEGRATED AUXILIARY REGULATION (IRS)

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Code of 1939, as Amended, as Passed by Congress, provides in Section 6033(a)(2)(A)(i) and in Section 6033(a)(2)(C)(i) and (ii) provide, as Statute, that "churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches," and "religious organizations described in Section 501(c)(3)," and "educational organizations described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)," shall be exempt from filing returns with the Internal Revenue Service, and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution demands:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court, in the decision of *KEDROFF v. ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL*, 344 U.S. 94, 116 (1952) stated that religious freedom encompasses the "power (of religious bodies) to decide for themselves, free from state interference, matters of church government as well as those of faith and doctrine," and

WHEREAS, this philosophy of the Supreme Court has prevailed from the first days of this Great Nation, under God, until the latest affirmation of said doctrine by the Supreme Court in the Case of *THE SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX DIOCESE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA v. DIONISJE*, 44 L.W. 4927, where the Court said: (At 44 L.W. 4933):

"Indeed, it is the essence of religious faith that ecclesiastical decisions are reached and are to be accepted as matters of faith, whether or not rational or measurable by objective criteria..." and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service did on January 4, 1977 issue regulations attempting to define what religious bodies and agencies could or could not be classified as "integrated auxiliaries" of religious bodies (churches), and

WHEREAS, the regulations issued by the IRS would have a severe and disastrous impact on the Christian ministry of many of the religious programs and ministries of the agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and would serve as a gross intrusion upon the spiritual and religious activities of the agencies and institutions, and

WHEREAS, such an intrusion is contrary to the First Amendment of the Constitution and the Statutes, as passed by Congress, and

WHEREAS, under the regulations various Church Schools and other educational programs offered by some member Churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention may not be allowed to be classified as "integrated

auxiliaries" of the Churches or the Convention, and

WHEREAS, this is administrative intrusion into the freedom of religious life in America where the Congress could not tread, by the dictates of the First Amendment, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, assembled, that such Administrative Intrusion is equally violative of the United States Constitution and the decisions of the United States Supreme Court; now,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Mississippi Baptist Convention that this body go on record in opposition to the Internal Revenue Service regulations on "integrated auxiliaries" under Section 6033 of the Internal Revenue Code, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention be directed to communicate our expression of opposition to the President of the United States, the Congressional Delegation of the State of Mississippi and the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service with the prayerful request that all actions necessary be taken to prevent the implementation of these unnecessary and unconstitutional rules, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be furnished the Editor of the Baptist Record with the request that the same be published in the Baptist Record along with the request that all Mississippi Baptists personally communicate their prayerful concerns about this unconstitutional intrusion upon religious freedom with their respective Congressmen and Senators in Washington and with others as they deem appropriate, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

NO. 2 RESOLUTION CONCERNING FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

WHEREAS, The family has been ordained by God as a means of bringing order to human society, continuing the race, and providing enriched fellowship and emotional nurture for all people; and

WHEREAS, The New Testament plainly teaches the beauty and value of a love-filled monogamy; and

WHEREAS, Many people are desperately searching for a restoration of happiness and fulfillment in their family relationships; and

WHEREAS, The family models presented in the mass media are too often unhealthy and too seldom in keeping with God's intentions for family life; and

WHEREAS, Many people turn to divorce as an early solution to problems that could and should be solved in other ways;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that we affirm our conviction that the restoration of happy and biblical family relationships is one of the most critical moral imperatives of our time, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we seek to practice, and encourage others to practice, biblical family relationships which reflect Christ's love, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge churches not only to proclaim that monogamy is Christ's teaching for marriage but also to provide compassionate help for couples who face marital problems.

NO. 3 RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, this 142nd Session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention has, with great success, challenged us toward bold vision and action in reaching our world for Christ;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE EXPRESS DEEP APPRECIATION TO:

President Robert Hamblin for his gifted leadership, his genial spirit and his challenging address;

To the great First Baptist Church of Jackson and Pastor Franklin Pollard for superbly hosting the Convention for the 35th time;

To Radio Station WJFR-FM and its Management for broadcasting certain portions of the Convention Sessions;

To the news media for their coverage of Convention Sessions;

To the Committee on Order of Business for the skillful development of the Convention theme "Reaching Out With All Boldness" and the securing of denominational leaders as program personnel; and

To Executive Secretary Earl Kelly and his committed staff for their visionary leadership to Mississippi Baptists in the last year.



Associational Missions Officers

Maurice Flowers, center above, is the new president of the Mississippi Association of Directors of Missions. He is director in Jones County Association. Others left to right are Charles Melton, song leader, Newton County; Zeno Wells, vice-president, Jackson County; George Lee, secretary-treasurer, Lawrence, Marion, and Walthall counties; and John Paul Jones, pianist, Mississippi Association.

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Washington (BP) — The U. S. Supreme Court will try again this term to help local communities determine what constitutes obscenity, according to an announcement issued here. Justices of the high court indicated they will hear the appeal of a California man convicted of using the U. S. Postal Service to send allegedly obscene materials in violation of a federal law which prohibits mailing any "obscene, lewd, lascivious, indecent, filthy or vile article, matter, thing device, or substance."

New York (RNS) — More than \$750,000, part of an estimated \$4 million return from the 1977 "Operation

Encephalitis

Victim

Improves

NEW YORK (BP) — Southern Baptist missionary C. Ernest Harvey is now out of the intensive care unit in a hospital here and is conscious most of the time. He is recovering from encephalitis.

J. D. Hughey, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Europe, said in Richmond, Va., that Harvey was continuing "to improve remarkably."

Harvey is assigned to Portugal and formerly served in Mozambique. He became ill at his home in southern Portugal, was taken to Portugal's capital city of Lisbon, and then to St. Luke's hospital here October 23.

Rice Bowl" Lenten collection in the U. S. Catholic Church, has already been used to support projects in 20 countries to aid the poor and hungry, Catholic Relief Services announced here.

Louisville, Ky. (BP) — Romanian Baptists are experiencing a time of unprecedented freedom from government interference, according to recent reports coming from that Eastern European nation. Indications are that the pressure on evangelicals has been "eased off" in recent months, Alan Scarfe of the Center for the Study of Religion and Communism at England's Keston College said in an interview while on the campus of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Chicago (EP) — Biblical scholars, fearing evangelicals could drift into neo-orthodoxy by "default" rather than as a result of clear thinking, gathered in Chicago in late September to map a 10-year educational thrust defending biblical inerrancy. Called the International Council on Biblical Inerrancy, the new group intends to alert the church and the world to "the impressive coalition of scholars, pastors, evangelists, organizational leaders, media persons and laymen" which holds to what the council refers to as the "the historic doctrine of verbal inerrancy."

Radio-TV Honors Graham

FORT WORTH (BP) — Evangelist Billy Graham will receive a Distinguished Communications Medal from the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission during the commission's ninth annual Abe Lincoln Awards program at Tarrant County Convention Center, Feb. 8-9. Graham will bring the keynote address.

The Radio and Television Commission created and sponsors the Abe Lincoln Awards as an incentive to broadcasters to continue to provide their communities with quality broadcasting.

"The Distinguished Communications Medal which Dr. Graham will receive is not an annual award as are the Abe Lincoln Awards," said Paul M. Stevens, commission president. "The Distinguished Communications Medal is presented only when people of exceptional merit are found."

The Abe Lincoln Awards program traditionally brings to Fort Worth, broadcasters and network leaders from around the country. Two top Abe Lincoln Awards, one for radio and one for television, are presented. The other Abe Lincoln nominees receive Abe Lincoln Merit Awards.

Stevens called Graham's position in American and world history unique. "In times of world disturbance, turmoil, and political convulsion, Billy Graham's voice has been head persistently presenting the claims of God on the lives of many."

"He has been heard on every continent and in many nations. His message never varies. He presents the love of God, the wisdom and power of the Bible, and the need for people to love one another."

I CAME TO LOVE YOU LATE

Joyce Landorf's novel that could've happened!

I CAME TO LOVE YOU LATE, by best selling author Joyce Landorf, is a tenderly perceptive, intensely personal story based on the brief glimpses we see of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus in Scripture.

Perhaps you'll identify with Martha in her struggle to supplant her self reliance with a workable living faith. And perhaps you'll encounter Jesus, face to face, in a compelling new way. Every reader will find something special in the pages of I CAME TO LOVE YOU LATE. Something meaningful. Something lasting.

\$8.95



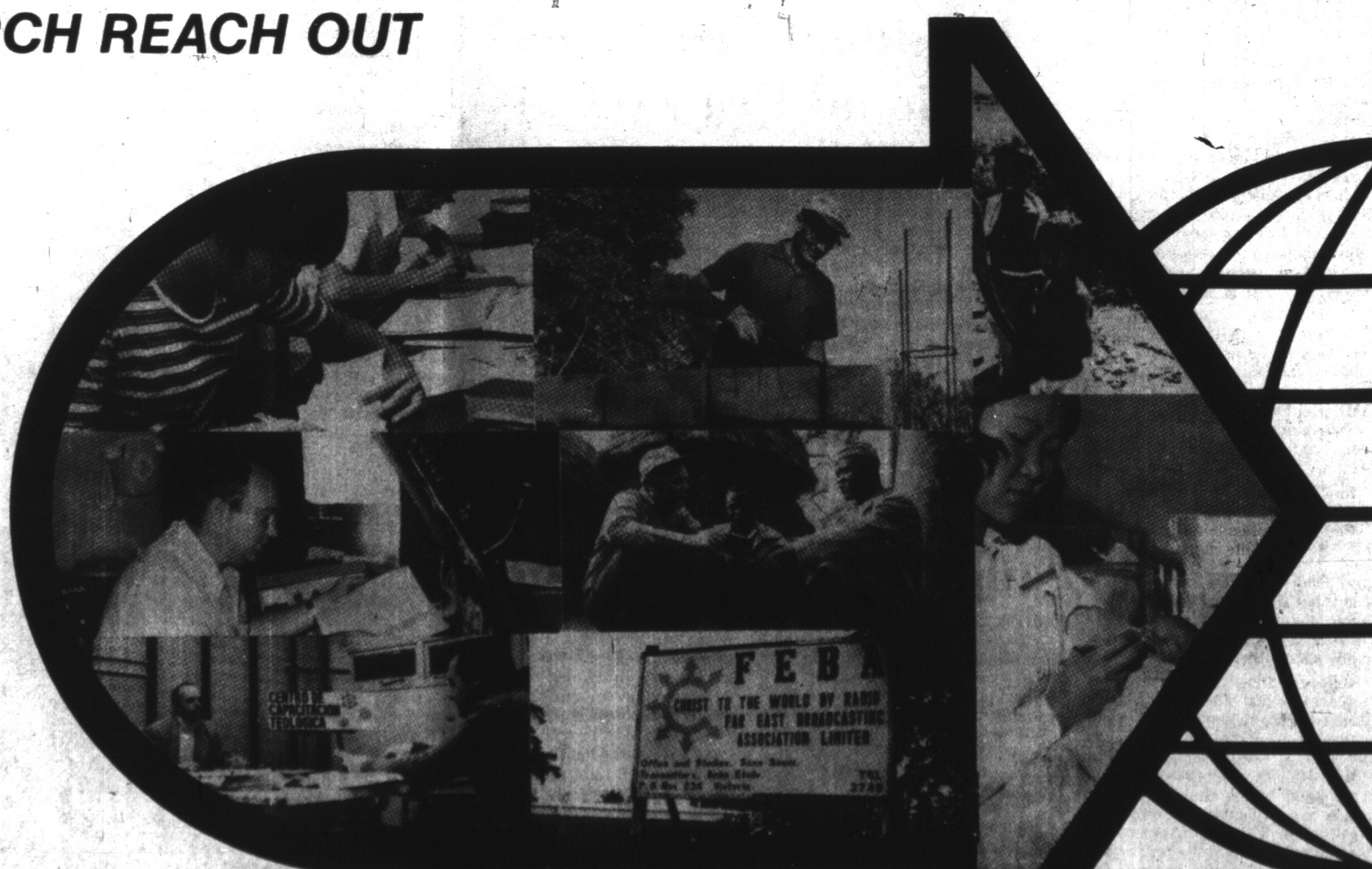
FLEMING H. REVELL

Visit your Baptist Book Store or order from the Baptist Book Store or Mail Order Center serving you.



LET THE CHURCH REACH OUT in Global Bold Mission

Let the Church Reach Out, and preach the gospel to every creature. That is the bold goal of Bold Mission Thrust. That is why there is a bold goal for the Little Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. More than half the money necessary for a Bold Foreign Mission Thrust is wrapped up in that bold goal. The challenge to every Baptist is to give boldly this Christmas.



ON TARGET FOR A BOLD THRUST IN FOREIGN MISSIONS—(top, left to right)

Urban evangelism, Baptists writing lesson courses for persons reached in Singapore / Volunteers on the field, assisting more than 2,700 career missionaries, as last year in Guatemala / Relief and benevolent ministries, such as this pure water project in Bangladesh / Mass media broadcasts, such as this one in Caracas, Venezuela / Village evangelism, as in Togo / Medical ministries, as at Baptist Hospital in Hong Kong / Leadership training and theological education, such as this seminary extension scene in Buenos Aires, Argentina / New mission fields, such as the Seychelles Islands, recently entered to serve as a base for broadcasts into Africa and the Arab world

\$34,000,000

for BOLD FOREIGN MISSION THRUST

South Central Mississippi Offers Bible Drill Clinics

Bible Drill Clinics for South Central Mississippi have been scheduled for December 12-13 according to Kermit S. King, director of the state Baptist Church Training Department.

These clinics offer training for youth and children's workers who will be responsible for promoting participation in the Children's Bible Drill and Youth Bible Drill in the churches of this area. Both of these drills have recorded a significant increase over the past five years.

Clinic leaders include Bill Hardy, Minister of Education, First Baptist Church, Columbus; Mrs. Vivian Reeves, Children's Director, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson; Mrs.

Hayward Walters of Jackson; and Reuben Moore of Tupelo.

The purpose of these clinics is to instruct representatives from churches in how to recruit and train children and youth to participate in the drills.

The Bible Drills for youth and children constitute a program to teach older children and younger youth the books of the Bible; develop skill in finding Bible passages; lead them to learn the location of key passages in the Bible; and memorize significant and meaningful portions of scripture.

On Monday, December 12, clinics will be held at First Church, Newton; Forest Church, Forest; Parkway Church, Natchez; and First Church,

Yazoo City.

On Tuesday, December 13, clinics are scheduled for the Lauderdale Baptist Center, Meridian; First Church, Brandon; First Church, Vicksburg; and First Church, Crystal Springs.

Starting time is 7:00 p.m.

Leaflets obtaining rules and material to be used in the drills will be available at the clinics. They are now available upon request from the Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Clinic leaders are available to associations outside of the specific area scheduled for emphasis in 1977. A similar series of clinics is scheduled for North Central Mississippi in 1978.



Talley, Andrews

The man on the left is Jerry Talley, minister of music at Jackson's Oak Forest Baptist Church. He was listed in last week's Baptist Record as Larry Andrews, minister of music for FBC, Columbus. Andrews is pictured above, right.

The Missions Task

Time For Testing

By John Alexander, Director
Stewardship Department

Southern Baptists face a real dilemma. We have voted to do that which we have not yet demonstrated we have the will or commitment to do. We have voted to engage in what could well be the most significant endeavor of our convention's history... to preach the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000. This can be achieved only through deep personal commitment from individuals, churches, and denominational boards and agencies.

For many, many years we have taught the Great Commission and advocated proportionate giving. However, the time to act has come. We face a real dilemma. Did we really mean what we taught about world missions? At our convention in Norfolk we voted to undertake a world mission task. Are we willing now to make the commitment to carry out the task? That is our real dilemma. We know what we ought to do! Are we willing to act together and do it?

Are we willing to pay the price for what we believe? If not, do we REALLY believe it? If we don't believe it, why do we continue teaching it?

Statements of affirmation are fine, but statements of affirmation will not catch the attention of the world. If our faith is to be shared with the whole world, it will take deep personal commitment of ourselves and our substance.

In a church I attended as a young man there was a very devoted Bible-teaching family who emphasized in the lecture situation that young people should go as missionaries. One day their daughter went forward to announce to the church that she was called to be a missionary. The family was now face to face with their Bible teaching through those years. It now involved their family. The mother, a very fine lady, began to do everything she could to dissuade her daughter. When reminded of her Bible teaching on missions, she replied, "But daughter, I didn't mean you!"

The dilemma facing us today is fraught with both hazard and hope. For Southern Baptists, it is the forks of the road! We must choose! It is a time of decision! Great issues are involved for a Christian denomination. Our faith is being tested. Do we REALLY believe God? We have proclaimed over the years that it is our commitment to missions that keeps us together. Now the time has come to prove our faith or take down the flag. We must certify by our actions that our faith is valid.

If we respond positively to the dilemma, it can be our finest hour. Like the men and women of England who refused to surrender but rallied, fought, suffered, and died, we too can make it our finest hour.

Every Baptist, every church, every board and agency must act together if victory is to come. It is a time for testing and validating our faith.

Golden Gate Staff Signs Faith Statement

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — In a public signing ceremony here, the faculty of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary reaffirmed their commitment to the statement of Baptist Faith and Message adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in 1963.

During the occasion, attended by students, faculty and area religious leaders, faculty members signed a document certifying that they would teach "in accord with and not contrary to the 1963 statement." Golden Gate Seminary had previously subscribed to the 1925 statement, forerunner of the 1963 statement. The decision to change to the 1963 statement came by vote of the trustees and faculty.

Deaf Actors To Present Christmas Drama

A drama with deaf actors will be performed Dec. 4, at 7 p.m., at Woodland Hills Baptist Church in Jackson. The drama, entitled, "And So He Came... Like Us," was written by Barbara Yount, who has worked with deaf people in Texas and Virginia. The drama enacts the traditional Christ-

mas story.

The actors are members of the church's deaf department. Mrs. Rita Kelly is the play's director. She is teacher of the church's deaf adult Sunday school class.

Four interpreters will serve as narrators for the drama.

DECEMBER, 1977

Sunday School	<p>FOREIGN MISSIONS DAY IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL, DECEMBER 11. This special day, recommended for December 11 in the churches, is to provide for an interpretation and call attention to Foreign Missions for all Sunday School members. See Outreach, November, 1977.</p> <p>ENLISTMENT OF WORKERS TO ATTEND GULFSHORE SUNDAY SCHOOL "MINI" CONFERENCES Dates are July 31 - August 2, August 3 - 5, August 7 - 9 and August 10 - 12.</p> <p>ENLISTMENT OF WORKERS TO ATTEND GLORIETA AND RIDGECREST BAPTIST CONFERENCES IN 1978 Reservations accepted beginning January 1. See Outreach, December, 1977. See Glorieta and Ridgcrest schedule, page 26.</p>
Church Training	<p>PLAN ENLISTMENT / PUBLICITY PROMOTION FOR JANUARY-MARCH Sunday, April 2, is High Attendance Night in Church Training. Plan a three-month publicity-promotion project to (1) give maximum exposure of Church Training, (2) publicize CHURCH: THE SUNDAY NIGHT PLACE, and (3) enlist church members in attendance.</p>
Church Music	<p>CAROLING / CAROL CANDLELIGHT SERVICE A congregational "sermon in song" for Christmas (brochure available from state Church Music Department) and a Christmas program utilizing children, youth and adult music groups.</p> <p>HYMN OF THE MONTH "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly," Hymn #94, New Baptist Hymnal</p>
Brotherhood	<p>FOREIGN MISSION WEEK OF PRAYER AND LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING, DECEMBER 4-11 Program materials can be found in October-December issue of Brotherhood Builder, Baptist Men's Handbook and Royal Ambassador age level materials. Mission graded series studies may be purchased from Baptist Book Store.</p>
Woman's Missionary Union	<p>WEEK OF PRAYER FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS AND LOTTIE MOON OFFERING, DECEMBER 4-11 Program materials for week will be found in December WMU age-level magazines while plans for church-wide participation will be in October-December issue of Dimension magazine. Free materials such as posters, offering envelopes, prayer guides, etc. for church use mailed to WMU director in mid-October. Additional copies may be ordered from state WMU office.</p>
Stewardship	<p>REMINDERS Distribute individual boxed offering envelopes to each member. Send quarterly record of contribution to each church and Sunday School member. Enclose a "Thank You" folder.</p>
Church Administration Pastoral Ministries	<p>REMINDER Make reservations for programs at Ridgcrest and Glorieta. Reservations received by January 1 have a much better chance of confirmation. See Ridgcrest and Glorieta schedule, page 26.</p>
Student Work	<p>STUDENT DAY AT CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 25 A service to recognize and use college students in their home churches. They relate their spiritual experiences. They tell about Baptist Student Union on their campuses. Posters and suggested programs are mailed to all pastors in early November so they may plan with students during Thanksgiving holidays.</p>

Convention Conversations



Left

Jim Lott, minister of music for Calvary Baptist Church in Greenwood, and Hollis Fraser, minister of music and youth for Tylertown Baptist Church, talked about their work during the convention.

Right

Bob Holifield, furloughing missionary to Italy, visits with Charles Nestor, pastor of Coldwater First Baptist Church.

Bobbie Black Returns To State

Bobbie B. Black, who for 13 months has served as director of the department of Woman's Missionary Union and Christian Social Ministries for the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Baptist Convention, has resigned and has returned to her native home at Lucedale, Miss. Concerning her resignation, she stated, "The reason is of a personal responsibility that I feel toward my elderly father to return to Lucedale to be with him." She went to the position in Pennsylvania in October, 1976, from Jonesville, Va., where she served for 11 years as director of associational missions. She plans to seek employment in the Lucedale vicinity.

Calhoun County Pastor Dies

Carmon Savell, pastor of Poplar Springs Church, Calhoun County, died on Nov. 22, at age 65. Services were held on Nov. 25 at First Church, Vardaman.

Savell served as associational missionary in Calhoun County, following World War II. During the war, he was a chaplain. His pastorates included First Vardaman; Merigold; Iuka; Second, Greenville; Pace; and Summerland, Taylorsville.

Savell was born at Philadelphia, Miss. He graduated from Mississippi

College and Southern Seminary. Two of his five surviving brothers are Baptist pastors. They are Carl Savell, Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, and Harold Savell, Asheville, N. C. Other survivors include his wife, Gwen, of Route 2, Vardaman; three sons, Van, of Titusville, Fla., Ricky of Greensboro, N. C., and Doug of Prattville, Ala.; five grandchildren; and one sister.

Ready for the January Bible Study?
A Distinctive Translation of EXODUS with an Interpretive Outline \$5.95
Order: Baptist Book Store
Or send check: Jameson Press
1833 Bushnell Avenue
South Pasadena, CA 91030

NEEDING PEWS?

Factory Representatives
Located Nationwide
OVERHOLTZER CHURCH FURNITURE, INC.
P.O. BOX 4039 • MODESTO, CA 95352
CALL TOLL FREE (800) 344-7182

OLD BIBLES REBOUND

A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder.
"Internationally known specialists"
NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO.
Box 305-C • Greenwood Miss 38970

Seminar Addresses Right Of Death

"Death is no longer in the hands of God; it is in the hands of medical technology," an associate professor of Christian ethics told a Mississippi audience at the Baptist Building.

Paul Simmons of Southern Seminary was guest speaker for a seminar on "Euthanasia, Death With Dignity," for pastors and other professionals. The seminar was sponsored by the Christian Action Commission.

Because of life support systems and

means of resuscitation, there are "new dimensions of dying," Simmons said. "We traditionally associated dying with God."

He said pastors, medical personnel and individuals are facing questions about death unknown 20 years ago.

Asking "What is death?" Simmons said it can no longer be thought of in the traditional context of dying once. "The future is upon us." People have to think of "active death. To what de-

gree might we morally participate in the decision of our own dying or that of a loved one?"

Because people such as Karen Ann Quinlan can be kept alive with all brain function is gone, prolonging a form of life is a question many persons will have to deal with.

Pastors already are dealing with people who want to die and families who are perplexed about use of life supports.

Simmons explained the term euthanasia means elective death and is literally translated into "good death or well dying."

Explaining the different forms of euthanasia, he said negative euthanasia means letting the patient go, "pulling the plug, taking away life support."

Or it can mean "not treating a secondary though fatal illness" such as pneumonia in an elderly, terminal patient.

The third type of active euthanasia is direct but involuntary. Because there is no statement from the patient, another party "must make the death decision." This is called mercy killing.

"It could be an act of mercy; others call it homicide," Simmons said the question is — "How should we as Christians relate to the problems of dying?"

The scriptures are paradoxical about death, he added. At times it is regarded as the last enemy; at other times, as a friend.

Two attitudes are either to "always oppose death" no matter what or to "cooperate with a person's dying."

While death and the time of dying must be considered carefully, Simmons said death is not something to be avoided. Christians can give moral support for cooperating with death.

"Death is from God, part of the creative order; an anxiety of our existence is death."

Some aspects of the medical science deny that fact, he added.

Simmons said in his opinion extraordinary medical procedures "deny death" and "refuse to accept the fact death is a reality."

"What we are doing is prolonged death and pain and forcing on a patient a prolonged style of dying."

He said when a person decides to end his life because of terminal illness there are "no grounds for calling it an unforgivable sin."

Likewise, there are no blanket rules

Retreat Cancelled

The pastor, staff deacon retreat at Ridgcrest Church in Jackson, Dec. 2-3, has been cancelled, according to Leon Emery, director of church administration-pastoral ministries. Lack of response was cited as the major reason for cancellation. Emery reported only 68 persons had registered for the retreat.



Carters Honored

Trustees of Clarke College have announced that the next building constructed on the campus will be named for John F. Carter. Clarke President S. L. Harris made this announcement to the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Harris presented Dr. and Mrs. Carter to the convention. The Carters are shown above center with J. B. Costlow, B.S.U. director at Clarke College, left, and Mrs. Costlow, right. Carter was for 40 years teacher of Bible and Greek for the college and on two occasions, served as interim president.

DIVINE DYNAMITE

Vance Havner has been on fire for Jesus Christ since 1913, when he began preaching at the age of 12. Since that time he has touched hundreds of thousands of lives from the pulpit and through more than thirty books and countless articles and newspaper columns. Douglas M. White traces the dynamic ministry of this humble servant of God in VANCE HAVNER: JOURNEY FROM JUGTOWN. Foreword by Billy Graham. \$6.95 (Cloth)

Vance Havner
Journey from Juggtown

FLEMING H. REVELL CO.

BAPTIST BOOK STORES

Visit your Baptist Book Store or order from the Baptist Book Store or Mail Order Center serving you.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Lottie Moon Offering . . .

Prayer Before Giving

As the Christmas season approaches (or, now that it has been in the stores for several weeks) it is time to give serious consideration to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, and just as importantly, to the Foreign Mission Week of Prayer Dec. 4 to 11.

Costs of maintaining an overseas missions force are increasing along with everything else. There is indeed a high cost attached to a "Bold Foreign Mission Thrust." The nationwide goal for this year is \$34 million.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions is not a church offering. It is an individual offering. Churches establish goals which sometimes are exceeded and sometimes are missed. The offering itself, however, is made on an individual basis. The Foreign Mission Board depends tremendously on the Lottie Moon Offering, for it annually amounts to about half of the budget. But if the \$34 million figure is reached it will be because millions of Southern Baptists will have placed into the offering

whatever they felt was their proper contribution to the point that the goal is attained. The goals have their place for the inspiration to give. The money must come from individuals.

Then let us not become so involved in attaining the goal for the offering that we neglect the other aspect of the offering — the week of prayer. Prayer is the more important of the two. If the proper attention is paid to prayer for foreign missions, attaining the offering goal will follow along as it should.

What we consider each year at this time is more than just meeting an offering goal that will enable the Foreign Mission Board to carry on its program according to standards that it has established for itself. It is an effort to get some word of witness concerning the gospel of Christ to multiplied millions of lost people all over the world.

When we have prayed to the point that this has become a burden on our hearts that must be cared for, then the money will be forthcoming.

Bold Teaching . . .

"You Must Be Born Again"

Bold Witnessing, Bold Committing, Bold Teaching — these three factors are the essence of Bold Mission Thrust. The goals which have been established will be realized or missed according to how these factors are approached.

In the past few weeks we have given brief thought to Bold Witnessing and Bold Committing. In consideration of Bold Teaching it is only fitting that thoughts should be turned to the Master Teacher Himself and what was perhaps the boldest of his pronouncements — "unless one is

born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

In reality, from the perspective of Jesus this was not such a bold teaching. He knew what He was talking about and knew that a rebirth was a spiritual necessity. On the other hand the pupil in this case, Nicodemus, must have thought it was very bold indeed.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, which meant that he was deeply religious. He belonged to the most religious group of the land. The scripture says he was a ruler of the Jews, which placed him on the Sanhedrin. This was the highest court permitted by the Romans, and thus he was a member of the group that sought to give moral and spiritual leadership to the Jews.

Furthermore, Jesus identified him as a teacher of the Jews. So here he was, a man of great influence who held a highly responsible position and also one so well-versed in scripture that he was looked upon as a teacher of prominence. Yet Jesus was telling him he would have to start over if he wanted to see the kingdom of God. He would have to change directions completely — to become a new man.

Nicodemus must have thought that if anyone would have his spiritual condition taken care of it would be him. But Jesus was so bold as to tell him he was completely off base, that he had it all mixed up.

Bold teaching will be a vital element of Bold Mission Thrust. In Mississippi a great deal of 1978 will be given to

teaching those of us who are Christians how we can more effectively carry the message to others that they, too, must be born again if they expect to enter heaven's gates. In fact, there will be many who have given little thought to heaven's gates and really are not worried about their abode throughout eternity. Bold teaching will be necessary in order to equip bold witnesses who will be able to convince many who are not interested that they have been traveling the wrong road — that they've got it all mixed up.

The bold teaching will be made available. In order to be bold witnesses, we must make ourselves available for it. In no other way can we adequately approach Bold Mission Thrust. We must be prepared.

Southern Baptist Convention . . .

Not Too Early For Plans

Now that the Mississippi Baptist Convention is over it is time to begin thinking of preparation for the Southern Baptist Convention, which will be held June 13-15, 1978, in Atlanta, Ga.

As was the case last year, preregistration will be possible to relieve messengers of waiting in the long lines and enduring the annual crush that accompany registration at convention time.

Those who are already making plans to attend the Southern Baptist Convention next year will find in this issue a

list of motels and hotels and their addresses along with a reservation request. A map is also presented; and though it is not particularly a good map, perhaps it can serve to indicate locations so that selections of lodging places can be made more intelligently.

Registration cards should be obtained well in advance, and they may be obtained from the office of Executive Secretary-Treasurer Earl Kelly, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

The Southern Baptist Convention is as important a meeting as is the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The two

complement each other. For the same reason that it is important for messengers to attend the Mississippi Baptist Convention it is important to attend the Southern Baptist Convention. Budgetary matters begun in Mississippi will be finalized at the SBC. Trends begun during state conventions will be felt on the national level. The state conventions and the SBC are independent of each other, but they are joined together in the cooperative effort that is the hallmark of Southern Baptist effort.

It is not too early to plan.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Two church dinners on the ground in November and four days of Thanksgiving eating have added enough pounds that this morning I am thinking of diets. I remember what Gene Pierce (who worked in the Church Training Department) called his "diet for denominational workers." He said: "Decrease the coffeebreak intake. Develop will power to stop eating on the road. Do away with midnight snacks. Decline offered treats. Dump out hoarded goodies. Digest plenty of lettuce and cottage cheese." I need to add, "Don't go to dinners on the ground."

The first Sunday in November I attended Harvest Day at Straight Bayou. The second Sunday in November I feasted with the Choctaws who are members of Canaan Church in Leake County.

From the time that Chief Calvin Isaac's letter came inviting me to the Building Fund Drive Kick-Off Service at Canaan, I looked forward to that event.

The sun was shining on November 13 and leaves on the Natchez Trace were at the peak of autumn glory. I planned to leave home at 8, but my car would not crank. By the time I decided to give up on the dead battery and go in the Datsun pick-up, it was 8:30. Grace Lovelace (secretary in the Cooperative Missions Department) and I arrived at Canaan Church at 10 minutes to 11.

Dolton Haggan, missionary to the Choctaws, had given me good directions: "Drive through Carthage and Edinburg, cross the Pearl River, turn right at the New Harmony Church sign across the road from the Chaney Grocery Store, pass the New Harmony Church, drive on for half a mile, and there is Canaan on the right."

Chief Isaac was playing the piano, and black-eyed children were singing "Amazing Grace."

Among other guests present for the initiation of Canaan's building program were Iva Jewel Tucker of Birmingham, editor of the GA magazines, Discovery and Aware; Don

McGregor, Baptist Record editor, and his wife, Carlene; Homer Gibson, moderator of the New Choctaw Association; and Dolton and Martha Haggan.

Pastor Emmett Denson preached in Choctaw, so I can't with any authority tell you what he said. Once again, though, I felt a sense of awe in the knowledge that every man can speak to God in his own language.

At noon I searched for the source of the smoke at the edge of the churchyard and found a fire smoldering under a black iron pot. An elderly lady was stirring the hominy in the pot. Dressed in a colorful traditional long gathered skirt, she had been at the church since dawn, for the hominy needed to be cooked at least four hours. Hominy has always been one of my favorite foods, and this was the best I ever tasted. The picnic table was full of other dishes, too, like fried chicken and banana pudding.

"While we were building this new shelter over the table we decided to need to build a new church, too," Chief Isaac told me. "We want our building to have a sanctuary with baptistry, church offices, classrooms, a kitchenette, and an activities room with a library. We hope we can in future provide day care for children of parents who work."

As I listened to these plans, I thought of Calvin Isaac's father, the late B. D. Isaac, who was pastor of Canaan for over 30 years. I sat talking with Brother Isaac in the church one afternoon in 1972. He told me of a time in the past when the Choctaws met under the trees to worship, or built bow frames — bending saplings over the wagons and stretching blankets over them to give them shelter. "We would sing hymns in the wagon camps long after midnight," he said. He built this church, with the help of the other men.

I remembered his wise and noble face, often shaded from the sun with his black felt hat, and I imagined I could see a smile of satisfaction light his eyes. He would have approved of these plans for a new building.

The Baptist Record
— 515 Mississippi Street —
Jackson, Miss 39201

Don McGregor Editor
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers Bus Manager

Official Journal of
The Mississippi Baptist Convention

Robert L. Hamblin President
Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer

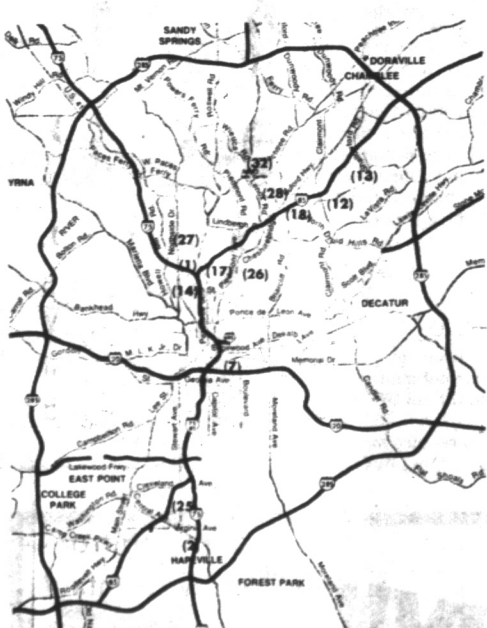
The Baptist Building
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Vance Dye, Sr., J. R. Fowler, Chairman, McComb; Gary Holcomb, Pascagoula; Lewis Sewell, Oxford; Claude Satterfield, Jackson; Clarence Wilkins, Clarksdale.

Subscription \$3.00 a year payable in advance. Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association and the Evangelical Press Association.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION APPLICATION FOR HOTEL OR MOTEL RESERVATIONS

Atlanta, Georgia — June 13-15, 1978

Please fill out form completely and mail to:
SBC Housing Bureau
233 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RESERVATIONS TO BE CLEARED THROUGH THE SBC HOUSING BUREAU. Each request must give definite date and approximate hour of arrival, and include names and addresses of all persons who will occupy the rooms requested. If it should become necessary to cancel a reservation, please notify the SBC Housing Bureau promptly. At least four choices of hotels or motels are desirable. Reservations will be filled in order of date of receipt. Processing of reservations to begin October 1, 1977.

If accommodations at the hotel/motel of your choice are not available, the Housing Bureau will make a reservation elsewhere as near your request as possible, and you will receive confirmation directly from the hotel/motel.

HOTEL OR MOTEL PREFERENCES

1st Choice _____
2nd Choice _____
3rd Choice _____
4th Choice _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ at _____

A.M. P.M. DEPARTURE DATE _____

MODE OF TRAVEL: Automobile ☐ Plane ☐ Bus ☐ Other ☐

NAMES OF ALL OCCUPANTS: (bracket those sharing room)

TYPE ROOM AND RATE DESIRED

Single Occupancy (1 bed—1 person) _____
Double Occupancy (1 bed—2 persons) _____
Twin (2 beds—2 persons) _____
Triple (3 persons per room) _____

ADDRESSES:

MAIL CONFIRMATION TO: NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Southern Baptist Convention
Woman's Missionary Union
Pastors' Conference
Religious Education Association
Church Music Conference

June 13-15
June 11-12
June 11-12
June 11-12
June 11-12



HOTEL	SINGLE	DOUBLE BEDDED	TWIN BEDDED	TRIPLE
9. Atlanta Hotel 111 Luckie Street 524-6461	\$14.00-16.00	\$17.00-19.00	\$21.00	\$24.00
10. "Best Western- White House" 70 Houston St., N.E. 659-0400	\$24.00	\$28.00	\$32.00	\$36.00
11. Colony Square Peachtree & 14th Sts. 925-6000	\$32.00-42.00	\$42.00-52.00	\$42.00-52.00	\$42.00-52.00
12. "Days Inn" 145 Clairmont Rd. 325-0400	\$13.88		\$16.88	
13. "Days Inn" 1455 Shallowford Rd. 633-4451	\$13.88		\$16.88	
14. "Dunbar's Royal Coach" 175 Howell Road 351-4100	\$26.00		\$32.00	
15. "Georgian Terrace" 559 Peachtree St., N.E. 972-6671	\$14.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$21.00
16. Holiday Inn- Downtown 175 Peachtree Ave., N.E. 659-2727	\$27.00-30.00	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$39.00
17. "Holiday Inn" 1444 Peachtree Circle N.E. 659-2727			\$26.00	
18. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Druid Hills Rd. 636-8631	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
19. Hyatt Regency- Atlanta 265 Peachtree St., N.E. 577-1234	\$29.00-41.00	\$37.00-49.00	\$37.00-49.00	\$45.00-57.00
20. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
21. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
22. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
23. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
24. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
25. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
26. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
27. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
28. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
29. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
30. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
31. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
32. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
33. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
34. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
35. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
36. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
37. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
38. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
39. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
40. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
41. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
42. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
43. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
44. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
45. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
46. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
47. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
48. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
49. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
50. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
51. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
52. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
53. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
54. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
55. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
56. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
57. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
58. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
59. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
60. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
61. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
62. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
63. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
64. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
65. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
66. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
67. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
68. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
69. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
70. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
71. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
72. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
73. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
74. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
75. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
76. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
77. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
78. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
79. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
80. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
81. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
82. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
83. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
84. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
85. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
86. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
87. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
88. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
89. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
90. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
91. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
92. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
93. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
94. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
95. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
96. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
97. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
98. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
99. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00
100. "Howard Johnson's" 1000 N. Peachtree St., N.E. 659-2727	\$21.00	\$26.00		\$30.00

Vassars Are Commissioned At Mt. Vernon

Tom and Margaret Vassar and daughters, Christy and Tracy, were honored at a commissioning service November 13, at the Mount Vernon Church, Mississippi Association.

On July 12, 1977 Tom and Margaret were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to serve as missionaries to Venezuela. They will go to Callaway Gardens, Georgia in January for mission orientation and from there to Costa Rica for language studies and then to Venezuela.

Those on program at the service included Roger Stewart, Mrs. John McCoy, Mrs. Mary Bardwell, J. Paul Jones, and Charles Wilson.



The Vassars, who are from South Carolina, came to Mississippi in September 1974 when he was called as pastor of Mt. Vernon and Amite River Churches.

The congregations of the two churches, along with friends from a number of churches in the area, joined together for the commissioning service and to express their love, appreciation and support of this family.

Following the service a reception was held. The new fellowship hall at Mt. Vernon, built this year, was named Vassar Hall in honor of the pastor and his family.



Holly Springs Gets SBC Music Award

First Church of Holly Springs recently received the Distinguished Church Music Achievement Award from the Southern Baptist Convention. Left to right are Betty Bennett, first grade choir director; Jean Thomason, children's choir coordinator and preschool choir director; Tommy Tutor, pastor; Ralph Thomason, minister of music and education; Mike Martin, adult choir president; Melba Everett, second grade choir director; and Iva Ray, third grade choir director.

447 Enroll In Seminary Extension

NASHVILLE — A total of 447 persons in Mississippi were enrolled during 1976-77 in one of the study programs related to the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department, according to the department's year-end report.

Developed primarily for persons who have never attended the seminary, the Seminary Extension courses are available through two delivery systems — extension centers and home study. Last year 400 Mississippi residents enrolled for study in one of the 20 centers in the state. This represented a record number of centers in operation, up two from the 1975-76

port.

An additional 47 persons enrolled with Seminary Extension's Home Study Institute.

Therman Bryant served as the Seminary Extension representative in Mississippi for several years prior to his death in July.

Locations of the 20 centers were: Newton; Amory; Blue Mountain; Stonewall; Waynesboro; Quitman; Forkville; Greenwood; Clinton; Batesville; Sledge; Monticello; Alta Woods; Fulton; Raleigh (two centers); Meridian; Oxford; Anguilla; Biloxi.

Reports from all 50 states and 19 foreign countries revealed that participation in study with Seminary Extension reached record levels last year. Total enrollments climbed to 8,777 students, with 328 Seminary Extension centers in operation.

Off The Record

The wife was grumbling about her husband's tendency to put off making household repairs. "He's so lazy," she complained, "that it takes his knuckles fifteen minutes to pop after he racks them."

A church treasurer said, "I have figured out why there are so many pennies in the collection plate. It's because there are no smaller coins." — The California Southern Baptist.

Women will wear anything new regardless of how uncomfortable it is... men will wear anything comfortable regardless of how old it is!

LITTLE GIANT
The name to remember for
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRIES
WATER HEATERS
SPIRES—CROSSES
—KINKGLAS
Church credit plans available.
Free colored brochure
LITTLE GIANT MANUFACTURING CO.
Box 518 / Orange, Texas 77630
Phone: 713-883-4246

FIBERGLASS
STEEPLES AND BAPTISTRIES

The Fiberglass Shop
Box 133 Phone 277-1551
Dalton, Ga. 30720
Write or Call For Free Color Brochure

Tallahassee (RNS) — Florida's Education Commissioner Ralph Turlington said that public schools cannot instill religion but they can and should teach morality. The widespread notion that rulings by the U.S. and Florida Supreme Courts forbid the teaching of morality is a "prevalent misconception," the commissioner said in a letter to district school superintendents.

Drexel
Church Furnishings
Pews, Pulpit and Chancel Furniture
Phone 704/322-8380
Dept. J. P.O. Drawer 2187
Hickory, North Carolina 28601

NEW AND USED BUSES
Complete Stock from 12 to 34 Passengers
BUS SUPPLY CO., INC.
Hwy. 98 E.—P.O. Box 502
McCOMB, MS 39648
Phones: Office (601) 684-2900
Home (601) 684-5874 or 684-6876

DAILY GOLF BILOXI MISSISSIPPI
SEVEN GREAT COURSES!
4 DAYS 3 NIGHTS \$87.75
per person dbl. occupancy
\$25.00 daily after three nights from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31, 1978
Arrangements available for 3rd person sharing room. Does not include tax or gratuity. Deposit policy — \$25.00
PLAN INCLUDES:
Spacious bedroom • Color TV
18-holes Golf Daily on one of 7 courses
3 Breakfasts • 3 Dinners • Enjoy steak, Prime Rib, Lobster Tail
Admiral Benbow Inn
U. S. HIGHWAY 90 AT OAKMONT PLACE
BILOXI, MISS. • TEL. (601) 388-1000
Direct Jet Service Southern Airways from 35 cities
Send COMPLETE Info: NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____

NOW AVAILABLE TO AGES 64 AND OVER

Guaranteed Issue

All pre-existing conditions covered

Immediately—No waiting period

MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT

(Policy Form 376)

Helps pay what Medicare doesn't pay

Benefits for

- Hospital • Doctor • Surgeon • Nurse • Skill Nursing Home or Extended Care Facility

- Prescription Drugs & Medicines at Home

For Full Information, Fill out coupon and Mail To:

Equitable Life and Casualty Insurance Co.

E. F. Hutton Insurance Agency

P. O. Box 5720

Jackson, Ms. 39208

Name _____ Age _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____
Phone _____ Zip _____
Underwritten by Equitable Life And Casualty Ins. Co. Salt Lake City, Utah BR 2

HOW TO FIND THE TRUE JOY OF THE SEASON BY SHARING WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN:



THE BEST WAY — A cash contribution to our **HOLIDAY FUND**. Again this Christmas our greatest need is contributions from individuals to a **HOLIDAY FUND** to supply each child with a modest Christmas gift and underwrite our food and milk bill for the entire **NEW YEAR**.

A SECOND WAY — A Christmas remembrance of clothing from you to a boy or girl of our selection. Contact us soon for names, needs and sizes.

A THIRD WAY — A package under the Village tree December 16 for a child of your selection or ours. Packages may be mailed or delivered.

OUR CHILDREN COUNT ON CHRISTIANS AT CHRISTMAS on the JACKSON CAMPUS, on the FARROW MANOR CAMPUS, and at the NEW ALBANY SATELLITE HOME.

For Further Information Write or Call

The Baptist Children's Village

Box 11308, Jackson, Ms. 39213
(601) 922-2242

President Appoints Ambassador

President S. L. Harris has named four students to serve as the first presidential ambassadors for Clarke College. These students will assist him in representing the college at various meetings and activities. Harris stated that the appointments are based on his belief that students can be effective representatives for the college. Two freshmen and two sophomores will be selected each year to serve as presidential ambassadors. Sophomore ambassadors for the 1977-78 school year are Beth Milner of Jackson and Randy Leslie of Tupelo. Chosen from the freshman class were Mary Bryant of Louisville and Danny Lynn of Northport, Alabama. Left to right are Lynn, Bryant, Harris, Milner, Leslie.

JOY TO THE MOON



Royal Ambassadors Aid Lottie Moon

Scott Panther, a member of the Royal Ambassadors at First Church, Pascagoula, and E. W. Runnels, church finance chairman, promote the annual Lottie Moon Christmas offering. The Pioneers of the RAs raised more than \$25 in donations at a Halloween spook house and announced an aluminum can collection drive to raise more money for foreign missions. The church will be aiming for a goal of more than \$5,500 for Lottie Moon.

WRINKLE-LESS
Custom Made
PEW CUSHIONS
Chair Cushions
DUNLAP'S
501 N. 3rd St. - Biloxi, MS 39001

HEARING IS MY CONCERN
Helping people has been my concern for 14 years. I have helped thousands to hear again. If you have a hearing problem, see your doctor for medical clearance. Then contact the specialist you can trust for hearing evaluation and proper fitting. Home visit no obligation. Write Ray Leach, Hearing Aid Specialist, 708 E. Fortification, Jackson, Ms. or call 352-4811.

CHURCH FURNITURE
At a price Any Church Can Afford
Write or call
WAGNER BROS. MFG. CO.
Tel. (501) 675-2448
Boswellville, Arkansas 72927

Recapture the spirit of Christmas past.

This year, why not leave the tired, last minute shopping, and Santa and his reindeer behind. And celebrate Christmas the way it was meant to be celebrated. Joyously. Reliving the wonder of God's great gift. Together... as a family.

CHRISTMAS by Charles L. Allen and Charles L. Wallis, will help you recapture the Christmas of your childhood. Three popular classics — **CHRISTMAS IN OUR HEARTS**, **CANDLE STAR** and **CHRISTMAS TREE**, and **WHEN CHRISTMAS CAME TO BETHLEHEM** — have been combined in one appealing volume. Every reader will rediscover the glory of the nativity in a fresh way.

Do something special for your family — ask for **CHRISTMAS** at your



FLEMING H. REVELL

Visit your Baptist Book Store or order from the Baptist Book Store or Mail Order Center serving you.



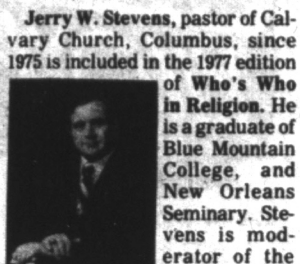
\$6.95 (Cloth)

NAMES IN THE NEWS



Pictured are those who received perfect attendance pins in Sunday School at Brewer Church, Perry County. Front row, l-r: Tim Odom, four years; Mark Smith, six years; Dawn Smith, four years; back row, l-r: Ellen Henry six years; Terri Broome, two years; Lisa Smith, eight years. John W. Henry is pastor.

Robert Surell and Mrs. Surell were speakers at the fall WMU associational meeting held at First Church, Oxford, under direction of Camille Anding. The Surells, lay persons, told of their experiences while on a visit to China.



Jerry W. Stevens, pastor of Calvary Church, Columbus, since 1975 is included in the 1977 edition of *Who's Who in Religion*. He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College, and New Orleans Seminary. Stevens is moderator of the Lowndes County Association and a member of the Golden Triangle Regional Missions Committee.

J.S. Nobles, Jr., 57, a brother of Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, died Saturday morning, Nov. 26, at Orangeburg, S.C., where he had made his home for the past three years. A manufacturer's representative, he was a native of Marks, Miss. Other survivors include: his wife; a son; a daughter; his mother, Mrs. J.S. Nobles Sr., Clinton; and four grandchildren.

Staff Changes

First Church, Louisville, has called Wm. T. Fancher as minister of music and youth activities director. Fancher is a native of Columbus. He received the B. M. degree in Voice from Louisiana State University, and holds the M.C.M. in Voice from Southwestern Seminary. He goes to Louisville from Calvary Church, Columbus. His wife, Linda, is a children's music specialist with the church music department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Fancher

First Church, Southaven, has called Clyde Johnson, from Meadowbrook, Desoto County, as Children's Church pastor and director of the bus ministry. Johnson attended the University of Mississippi and was called into the ministry in February of this year.



Johnson

Charles Burton Dill is the new pastor of East Corinth Church at Corinth. Since 1973 he had served as minister of youth at Broadmoor Church in Memphis. Dill is a graduate of Memphis State University and New Orleans Seminary. For three years he was church orchestra director of Mid City Church in New Orleans. Also he has been pastor in Ohio and Illinois.

Wayne L. DuBose assumed duties as pastor of West Laurel Church on Nov. 6. He was ordained to preach by First Church, Satsuma, Ala. in 1964. He graduated from William Carey College, and from New Orleans Seminary. DuBose is married to the former Linda Kay Ishee, daughter of Harold C. Ishee, pastor of Plainway Church, Laurel. He has been pastor of churches in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. He and his family are living in the pastorate at 5 Pine Ridge Road. They were welcomed with a church-wide reception and pounding.



DuBose

New Series Speaks On Moral Issues

A new resource series which presents what the Bible has to say concerning ten current moral issues is now available from the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Prepared by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, with the help of their state convention counterparts, the new "Bible Speaks" series of pamphlets shares Scriptures related to family, race, hunger, aging, alcohol, citizenship, sex, money, ecology, and war and peace.

The series was developed to help Southern Baptists apply the Bible's message to some of today's most serious social issues, according to J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission. He hopes that they will be widely used in church discussion groups as well as resource pieces for pastors in sermon preparation.

The undated set of pamphlets enables pastors, teachers, parents and individual Christians to have in one place a basic list of Scriptures which speak to these ten issues.

According to Foy Valentine, execu-

tive secretary of the SBC Christian Life Commission, the "Bible Speaks" series makes no attempt to offer an exhaustive list of Scriptures, but it is intended to encourage understanding, discussion and further Bible study. The commission hopes to expand the series in the near future to include other social concerns, Valentine added.

Any one of the series or quantities of each may be ordered from the Mississippi Christian Action Commission at 5-cents each postpaid. Address P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

"M" Night Held In Vicksburg

Warren County "M" NIGHT was held November 28, at First Church, Vicksburg. Chester Vaughn, Program Director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was speaker.

Skits, special music, and attendance recognition were program items. A special service for preschoolers and children was held.

Taylor Honored On 25th Year

On Wednesday night, Nov. 23, First Church, Grenada, honored their pastor, John Lee Taylor, in a special service. The occasion was the 25th anniversary of Taylor's ordination by First Church, Crystal Springs, his home church. The deacons presented a plaque to the pastor.



Taylor

Taylor is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. In 1969 William Carey College awarded him the Doctor of Divinity degree.

Taylor is a member of the Executive Committee, Miss. Baptist Convention Board. He formerly served eight years as a member of the Foreign Mission Board.

During the Wednesday service, a gift was presented to the Taylors by the church.

The principal speaker for the celebration was M. D. Morton of Louisville, Ky., Taylor's pastor at the time of his ordination in 1952.

Devotional

We Still Have Jesus

By W. Benton Preston, Pastor, Midway, Jackson

Matthew (17:1-13), Mark (9:2-13) and Luke (9:28-36) record the story of the transfiguration and all three quote Peter as saying, "Lord, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

It was a glorious experience that Peter, James and John were privileged to share with Jesus on the mountain top. Moses, the greatest of the law-givers and Elijah, the greatest of the prophets were there. It was a once in a lifetime experience. We can understand why Peter wished to stay.

Had we been there we probably would have felt and said the same. We like the mountain top experience. We like peace and happiness and victorious living and we wish all of life could be this way. But as much as we may wish and desire it, we know that life does not consist only of mountain-top experiences. All three of the Gospel writers record that when Jesus and His two disciples came down from the mountain they met a man with an epileptic son. They came down from the mountain top to the valley of distress and need.

Preston

We may glory in our mountain top experiences but let us never forget that we must also walk through the valleys. These valleys are real and often very deep. There are valleys of distress, suffering, sorrow, discouragement, disappointment, temptation, death, etc. There are times when we cry out

"Lord, help me! I cannot bear this burden alone." And the glorious good news of the Gospel is that, as Christians, we are not left to walk these valleys alone. No matter our condition or circumstances in life, whether on the mountain top or in the valley, we still have Jesus. He is ever with us. He will never fail or forsake us.

When hounds of hell pursue us
And sin's darkness hovers round us,
We need not be despairing. We still have Jesus.
When trusted ones forsake us
And no one will befriend us,
We are not left alone. We still have Jesus.
When loved ones are taken from us
And sorrow night o'ercomes us,
We are not left comfortless. We still have Jesus.
When our human efforts fail us
And the quicksand of fear claims us,
We have a sure foundation. We still have Jesus.
When life would seem to best us
And nagging doubts assail us,
Though everything is taken from us, we still have Jesus.
No matter what in life besets us
We conquer through Him Who loves us.
Rejoice! Take heart! Thank God! We still have Jesus.

Association Commends Harmontown For Baptisms, Missions Giving

Harmontown Church, Lafayette County, was host for the meeting of the Lafayette Association on Oct. 11, for the first time in 27 years. Around 175 people were present, according to Carol Welch, a member of the church. Don Stanfill is the pastor.

Harmontown was one of two churches the association commended for the high number of baptisms during the past year. Abbeville was the other. Harmontown reported 27 baptisms. Already there have been 11 this church year. The association has 22 churches.

Harmontown was recognized as second to First Church, Oxford in "missions giving." Harmontown gave \$27,000 to missions last year and First, Oxford gave \$37,000.

Sunday School Lesson: Life And Work For December 4

The Light Of The World

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First John 9:24-38



Duncan

"Where were you when the lights went out?" This was a popular question the night that the eastern section of our United States was plunged into darkness. The people of New York City and other population centers discovered that light was very important. The result of the darkness was confusion and destruction.

What are the properties of light? (1) The purpose of the light is to reveal. Whatever is in a room will show up when the light is turned on. (2) A light is a guide. The light may be a marker for a channel or give direction for traffic. A light is something to make the way clear to others. (3) A light can be a warning light. A light is often the warning which tells us to halt when there is danger ahead.

The occasion of Jesus saying, "I am the light of the world," was the Festival of Tabernacles (John 7:2). On the evening of the first day of the Festival there was a ceremony called the Illumination of the Temple. In the center of the court of women there were four giant candelabra. When the darkness came the candelabra were lit and it was said they sent such a blaze of light that throughout Jerusalem their brilliance could be seen. Bible scholars agree that Jesus was contrasting His life with the light of men. He was the light of the world.

Jesus spoke of the light which was life and the life which was the light of men. When the life of Christ is within the human soul, the light of Christ shines in the human life. Light is the reflection of the life of God in man. Darkness results in death. Light dispels darkness.

John 8:12, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." To be a follower of Christ is to give oneself — body, soul and spirit — into the obedience of the Master. To enter upon that following is to walk in the light. When we walk alone we are bound to stumble and grope, for so many of life's problems are beyond our solution. We need the heavenly

wisdom to walk the everyday ways. To follow Jesus is to walk in the light.

The religious leaders realized what Jesus was saying. The Old Testament has spoken of God as the light. "The Lord is my light" (Psalm 27:1). In the wilderness journey the light by night for the children of Israel in Exodus spoke of the glory of God. They could not deny what Jesus had done, but they could question what He taught. They sought to belittle His teaching by challenging its authority on the basis that He was making claims for Himself without any support from anyone else.

John presents the healing of the man born blind as support for the teaching on light. Jesus was light for the blinded eyes of mankind. The healing of the man's eyes by Jesus (putting mud and spittle on the eyes) showed the compassion and the glory of God. Jesus also wanted to heal the blinded eyes of the religious rules because of their prejudices. He is the true light, but the

Pharisees could not see it. They would have to become followers of Jesus before they would have the true light.

The Pharisees' reaction to the healing of the blind man revealed their conviction about Jesus. The healing on the Sabbath day was forbidden. The putting of mud and spittle on the eyes was work. The tragedy of the whole matter was that they reduced a great miracle to no significance (for them, at least) by their criticism of procedure and their destructive arguments.

The opposition against Jesus was persistent. First, they questioned the man whose sight had been restored asking him how his eyes were opened. They were looking for a way to find fault. When they heard He had done this deed on the Sabbath day, they immediately announced that this man was not of God because He had not kept the Sabbath day.

The reaction of the man who was healed was different and courageous.

"Well," he said, "if He is wrong, and such a sinner, how could He open my blinded eyes?"

The Pharisees expressed their chief claim . . . "We are Moses' disciples." In this way they felt their opposition was justified.

The real evidence is not in claims but in testimony. "Once I was blind — now I see!"

The educated Pharisees, despite their sophisticated interest in the things of God, remained in their unbelief but this sincere individual with his humble response to the actual realities of the word and the work of God came to know Christ personally. "Lord, I believe, and he worshipped Him."

The same light that opens the eyes of those willing to receive it blinds the eyes of those who reject it. As we receive the revelation of God, our capacity to see increases. Each time man refuses to see, his spiritual eyes lose their capacity to see.

Sunday School Lesson: International For December 4

Why Serve God?

By Wm. J. Fallis Job 1-3; 12-13



Fallis

With this lesson we begin a most unusual quarter of Bible study. Usually at this time of year we are starting on one of the Gospels to review the life of Christ from his birth to his resurrection. But this year we have three months of Old Testament study, which is often done in the summer months. Besides, this will not be Old Testament history but thirteen lessons on six books: Job, Micah, Ruth, Jonah, Daniel, and Psalms. Each one has distinctive messages for twentieth-century believers.

Because Job is mentioned by the prophet Ezekiel (14:14), he must have been a well-known personage before his sixth century B. C. But his story as we have it in the Bible was probably

written several centuries later. He is introduced as a most remarkable man: absolutely without fault, avoiding all evil, and completely dedicated to God. Furthermore, he was quite wealthy — both in family and in position.

In verses 8-11 the scene has changed. In a heavenly confrontation Yahweh ("the Lord") asked Satan (the word means adversary) what he had been doing. When he called attention to the remarkable Job, the adversary responded with a cynical question: "Would Job worship you if he got nothing out of it?" (TEV). He questioned Job's motive and integrity. He hinted that Job knew a good thing when he saw it, but if God were to take away his family and possessions, Job would show his true feelings toward God. The Lord accepted the challenge and permitted the adversary to test Job.

That testing did not affect his health, but it included the loss of all his property and his children. Job was hurt and he grieved, but he "did not sin or charge God with wrong" (1:22, RSV). Again the scene changes, and

Yahweh is commending his servant Job in the presence of the adversary. Satan declares that a man will give up everything to save his life, and he proposes a second test for Job.

Job began to suffer from "running sores" (NEB) over all his body. Seeing him in agony was too much for his wife, and she suggested a drastic release: Maybe God would kill him if Job cursed him. But Job resisted still; he trusted God whatever might come. His integrity was established.

Even as the wild animals and the plants of the earth go through their life cycles within the creative and sustaining power and wisdom of God, so does every living person depend on him even for air to breathe. God is in control even though mankind cannot explain his apparently contradictory actions. In 13:13 Job gets ready to speak to God, trusting in his wisdom and righteousness. In his agony, he must have an answer. Even though his defiant spirit may threaten his life, Job is willing to run that risk. Job trusted God's wisdom.

IT'S MORE THAN JUST AN OFFERING...

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is A TRADITION.

A TRADITION eighty-nine years old. In 1888, Woman's Missionary Union accepted the challenge of missionary Lottie Moon for a special Christmas offering for foreign missions which became known as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

A TRADITION based upon sacrifice. Each year millions of Southern Baptists share of their material wealth to support this special offering. Sacrificial giving is an important part of this response.

A TRADITION supported by prayer. During early December, church members throughout the world join in a special Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions which coincides with the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering emphasis.

IT'S MORE THAN JUST AN OFFERING

\$34 Million
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

A BOLD GOAL FOR A BOLD MISSION

Woman's Missionary Union, SBC

MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT

(Policy Form MCXC)

NOW AVAILABLE

HELPS PAY WHAT MEDICARE DOESN'T PAY
BENEFITS FOR

• HOSPITAL • DOCTOR • SURGEON
• NURSE • NURSING HOME

Coverage begins on effective date of policy

NO WAITING PERIODS

For Full Information, Fill Out Coupon And Mail To
UNITED AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

E. F. HUTTON INS. AGENCY

P. O. Box 5720

Jackson, Mississippi 39208

Name _____ Age _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____
Phone _____ Zip _____